

**For Municipalities with a Publicly Owned  
Coastal Marine Infrastructure**

**Small Harbor Improvement Program (SHIP) &  
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)**

*The goals of the SHIP and BIG programs are to:*

- *promote economic development*
- *improve marine infrastructure*
- *improve public access*

**You will be notified about the success of your proposal by May 14th, 2004**

**Small Harbor Improvement Program  
(SHIP)**

SHIP has \$750,000 in funds that were made available last year by the Maine Legislature and approved by Maine voters in November 2003. It is designed for municipalities with a project for a public wharf, landing or boat ramp, such as a re-decking, float replacement or installation of a new gangway. There is a \$150,000 limit per request and each request requires a local match of at least 25% (ie - if your request is \$150,000 your local match must be at least \$50,000). In-kind contributions will not be counted toward the local match. However, every additional percentage by which the local match exceeds 25% adds to the competitive score for the project.

**Boating Infrastructure Grant Program  
(BIG)**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife provides \$100,000 to Maine under the BIG program. This program is designed for smaller projects for improvements to facilities that accommodate transient, recreational, non-trailerable boats more than 26 feet long. Previous BIG awards were given for piling replacements, float replacements and the construction and installation of moorings. Under this program, larger projects (more than \$100,000) are also eligible for a national competition for funding. Please indicate in your letter if you think your project is eligible for BIG as well as SHIP funding.

**- See other side for eligibility and scoring requirements -**

**Deadline: March 1, 2004**  
**Project Eligibility and Scoring**

Please send us an application in the form of a separate letter from the municipality that provides the following information:

- Name of Municipality
- Contact Person
- Phone Number
- Is your Municipality applying for: SHIP? ☐ BIG? ☐ Both?? ☐
- Name of Project

Please answer these questions:

1. How does this project improve marine transportation at one of Maine's small ports?
2. Explain this project's potential to create and/or retain jobs or productivity?
3. Is this project an improvement to an existing public marine facility?
4. Does this project meet or exceed all applicable environmental standards requirements?
5. Explain how this project will improve public access.
6. Indicate anticipated local cash match to be provided, if above the required 25% \$\_\_\_\_\_.
7. How does the municipality plan to maintain the project in working condition for 20 years?

Please provide supporting documentation that includes cost estimates, photos, and location maps. Please return application letter and supporting documentation in the envelope provided in this packet.

**MaineDOT SHIP/BIG Scoring**

*Use the information below to guide your application letter*

**Economics/Productivity**

\_\_\_\_\_ 5 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 10 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 15 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 20 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 25 pts.

Example: A pier rehabilitation would score more points than other more routine projects due to the permanent improvements it would generate and the economic impact it would create.

**Completeness/Preparation**

\_\_\_\_\_ 5 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 10 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 15 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 20 pts. \_\_\_\_\_ 25 pts.

This refers to the ability of the municipality to complete the project in a timely, cooperative manner. It also refers to the amount of thought and work that has been put into the application and the project. Five bonus points will be given to municipalities with a comprehensive plan addressing waterfront issues.

For further SHIP or BIG information contact:

Mr. Kevin Rousseau (207) 624-3565 or E-mail at *kevin.rousseau@maine.gov*